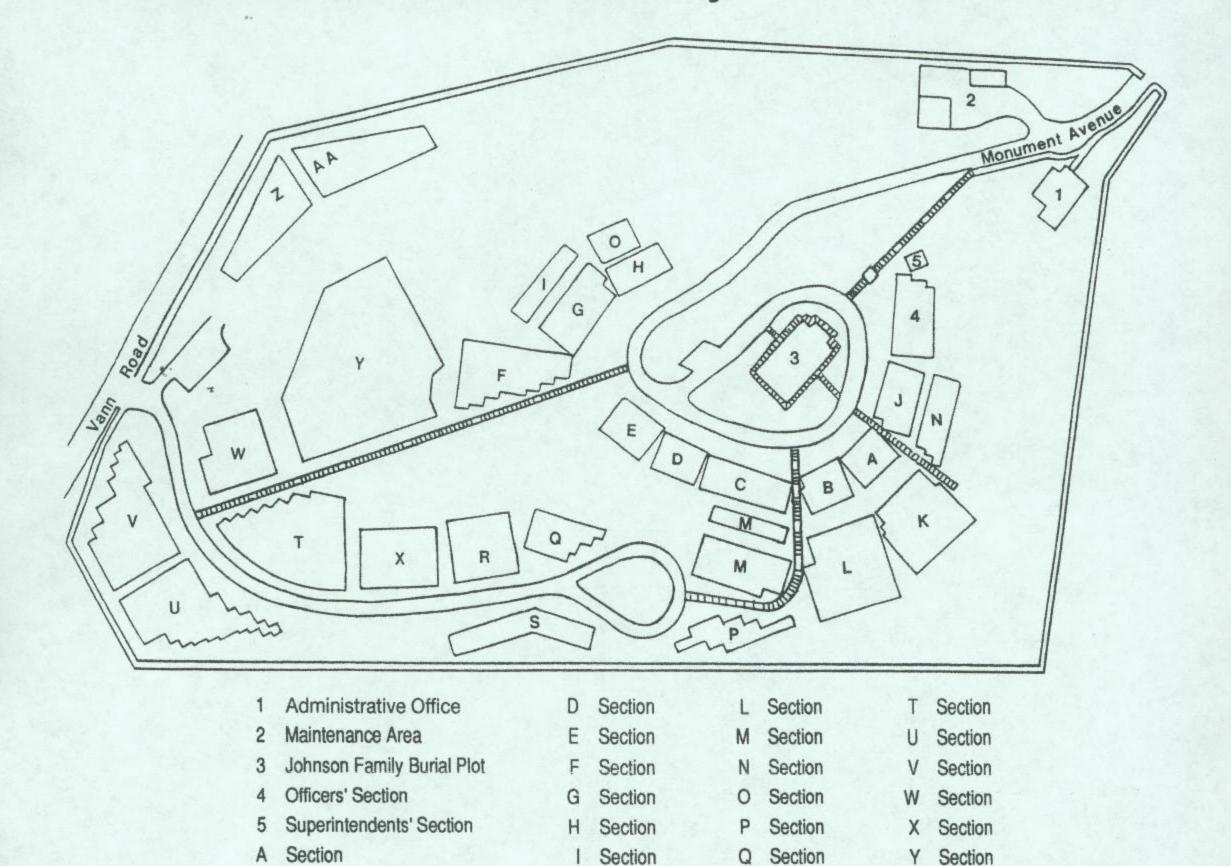
Andrew Johnson National Historic Site



Andrew Johnson National Cemetery



Section

Section

A President Dies

On July 31, 1875 a stroke claimed the life of the Seventeenth President of the United States. Andrew Johnson had requested that he be buried at his favorite spot in town. He also requested to be buried wrapped in the flag of his beloved Union and under his head was to be placed his tattered copy of the United States Constitution.

Section

Section

When he was laid to rest, the entire town turned out along with the mountain folk who had supported him in his early political days. Special trains brought dignitaries and government officials, but most of the mourners were the "mudsills of society" – the hard working mechanics, laborers, tradesmen and farmers whose rights and interests Johnson had tried to protect throughout his political career.

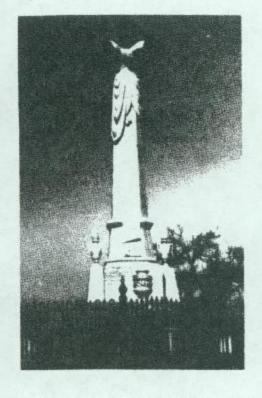
Section

AA Section

Section

Section

The Monument



The stately grave marker over Andrew and Eliza Johnson's grave was erected at the expense of the family. Surviving children Martha Patterson, Mary Stover and Andrew Johnson, Jr., dedicated the monument on June 5, 1878. The Italian marble monument stands 27 feet tall and is decorated with the "Stars and Stripes". An eagle is perched atop a globe and "poised as if in defense from an expected attack". A scroll of the Constitution is above an open Bible, a hand points towards the Constitution, emblematic of taking the oath of office. The inscription reads, "His faith in the people never wavered". At the time of the dedication in 1878, new markers were placed on the graves of Charles and Robert, Johnson's two eldest sons.

Charles, the oldest, was killed during his service to the Union Army during the Civil War.

Robert, the fourth child, also served in the Union Army and acted as personal secretary to his father during his presidency.

Andrew Jr. survived his father by four years. Like his brothers, he did not have any children, but was survived by his wife.